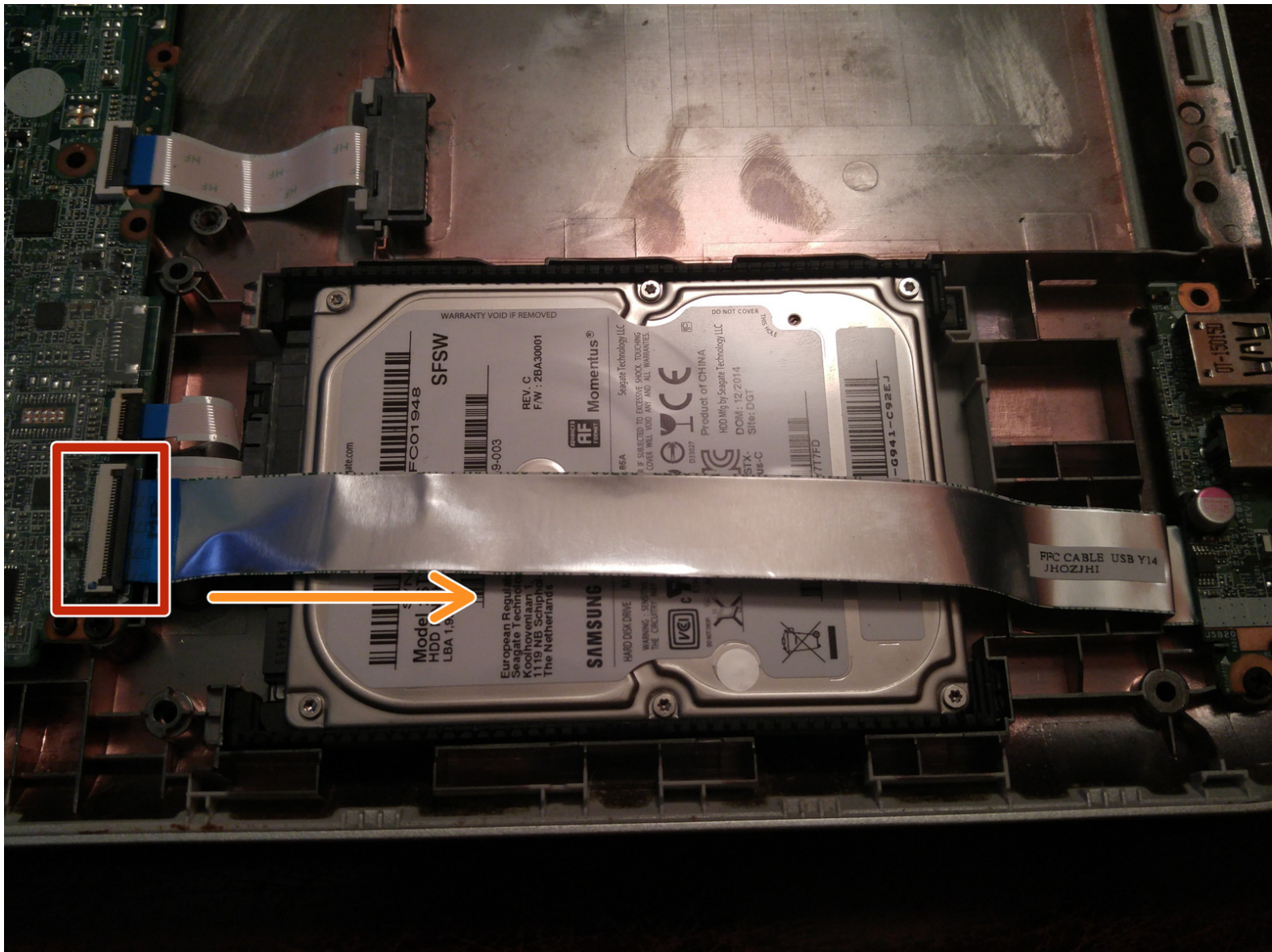




HP Pavilion 15 P Series Hard Drive Replacement

If your hard drive is dead or you wish to install an SSD, this guide will show you how to open the system to remove the old drive.

Written By: Nick



INTRODUCTION

If the hard drive in your system failed or you want a larger hard drive (or are upgrading to an SSD), this guide will show you how to access the hard drive for replacement.

Guide notes

- Replacement of the hard drive requires partial disassembly. If you are unsure if you can do the job, have someone who knows how to do it work on it for you.
- Hard drive replacement is more complicated than it needs to be. Read this guide fully before starting if you are unsure of your ability to do the repair.
- Use a 7mm drive. This system does not take thicker drives.
- Sorting your screws is crucial. There are a lot of screws to manage and there are at least 2 lengths used to get to the hard drive.
- Test the computer before reassembly by only assembling it enough to test for power. If something doesn't work, you will need to tear the whole computer down a second time if you did a complete reassembly.



TOOLS:

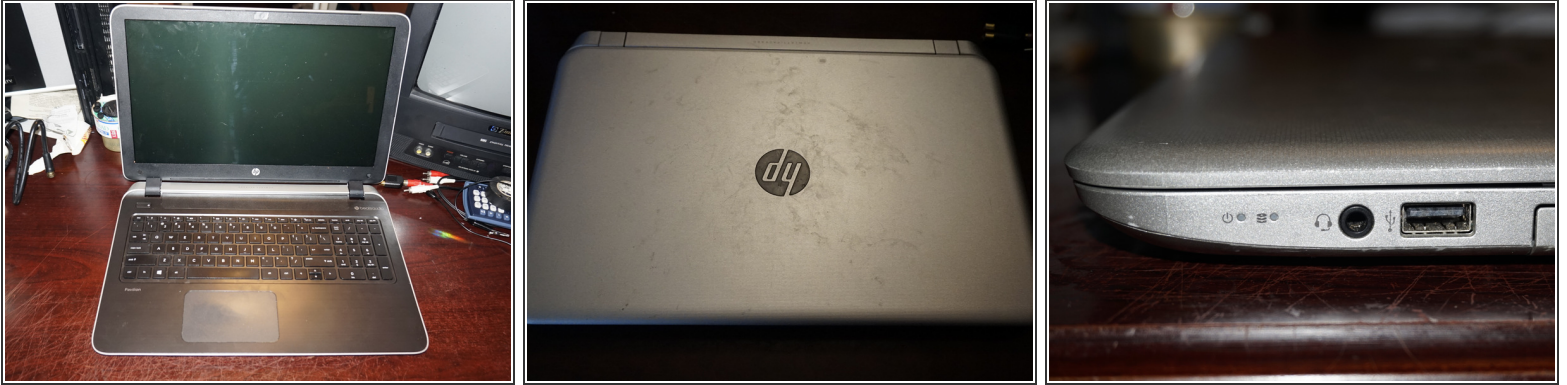
- [64 Bit Driver Kit](#) (1)
- [Magnetic Project Mat](#) (1)

Use this to sort the screws as they come out of the system

- [iFixit Opening Picks set of 6](#) (1)

Plastic pry tools will work, but the design wears them out very quickly.

Step 1 — Prepare the laptop



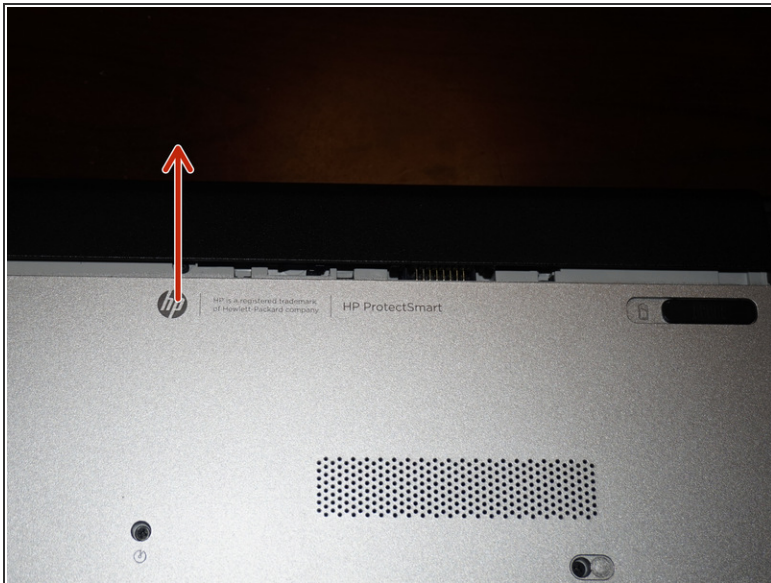
- To prepare the computer, close the lid and let the computer hibernate or shut the system down for major procedures. Do not remove the battery until the power LED on the computer is off.
- ⓘ The ability to hibernate the system by closing the laptop will depend on if you kept the Windows 8 hibernation defaults and what procedure is being done. If you are changing a major component you will need to save your work and shut the system down but if you are doing something simple you may not need to, but should save your work just in case.

Step 2 — Unlock the battery



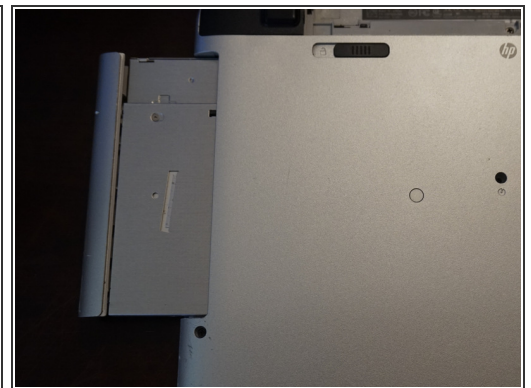
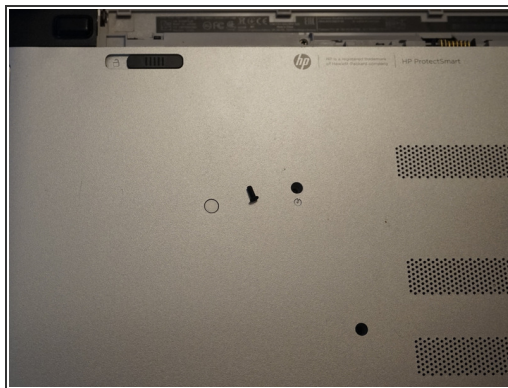
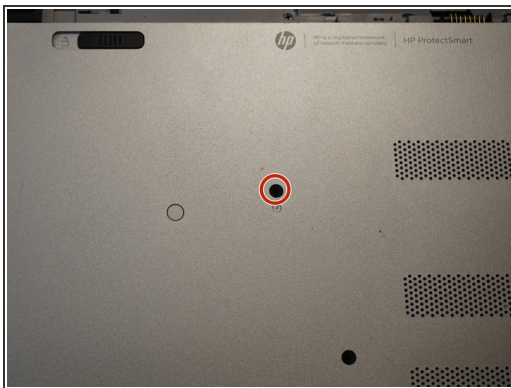
- Once the computer is off, remove the battery. To do this, pull the locking tab to the unlocked position.

Step 3 — Remove the battery



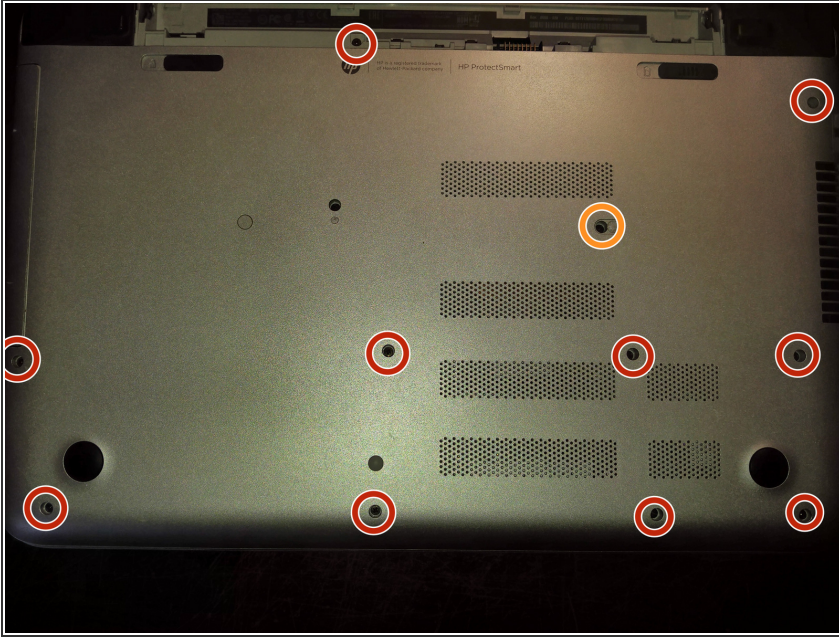
- To remove the battery, pull the battery forward. This will release it from the computer.

Step 4 — Remove the optical drive



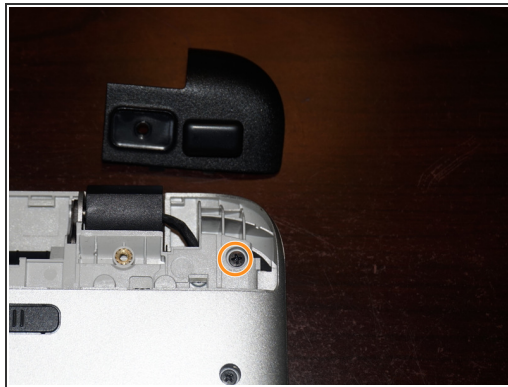
- Remove the screw that holds the optical drive in. To do this, use a **Phillips #0** screwdriver. Slide the optical drive out once this screw is removed.

Step 5 — Remove the bottom screws



- Once you have the battery and optical drive removed, remove the **11** screws that hold the palmrest in.
- This screw is hidden by a stick on cover. If this gets lost or the glue weakens, it does not affect the computer since this is here for cosmetic reasons.

Step 6 — Remove the hinge caps



- Remove the hinge caps. To do this, remove the rubber pads. Use a **Phillips #0** screwdriver.
 - Remove the screws under the hinge caps. To do this, use a **Phillips #0** screwdriver.
- ☒ If you want to reuse the original pads, stick them on the caps themselves. This will help preserve the adhesive.

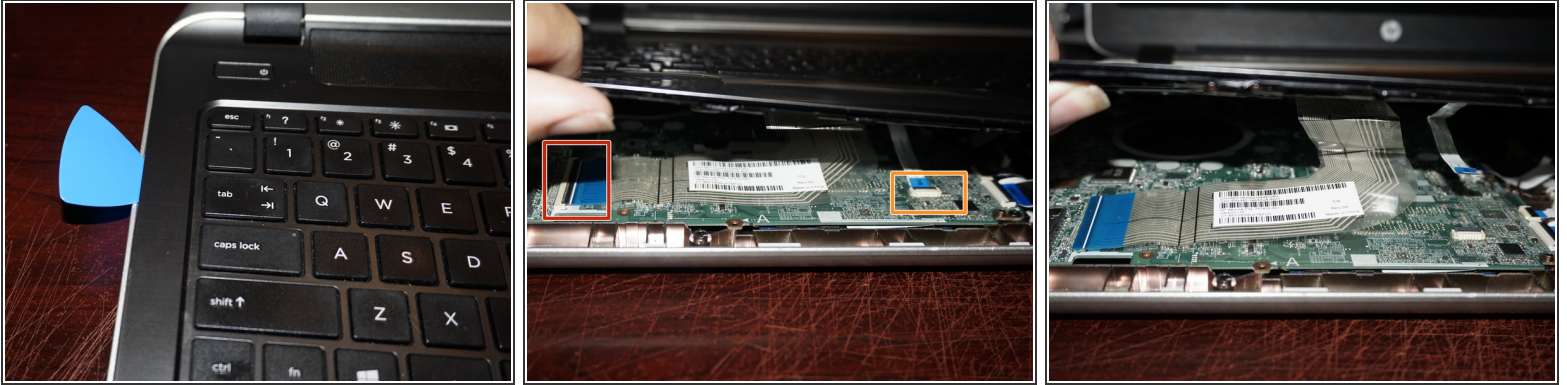
Step 7 — Remove the screws under the optical drive



- With the palmrest screws removed, remove the screws under the optical drive. Use a **Phillips #00** screwdriver.

i The system used in the guide only came with one screw. If yours came with more than one, sort them accordingly.

Step 8 — Remove the palmrest



- To remove the palmrest, use a plastic opening tool to work your way around the palmrest. Do this until the first 3 sides are loose. Once the palmrest is loose, lift the front as shown and disconnect the keyboard and trackpad cables. To do this, flip the black plastic tabs on the connectors and pull the cables out.
- Once the keyboard and trackpad are disconnected, loosen the back of the palmrest for the next step. **Since the power button is still connected, removing it now can damage the power button board or motherboard.**
- ⓘ If you are having trouble removing the palmrest from the back of the chassis, the guitar pick can make this easier.

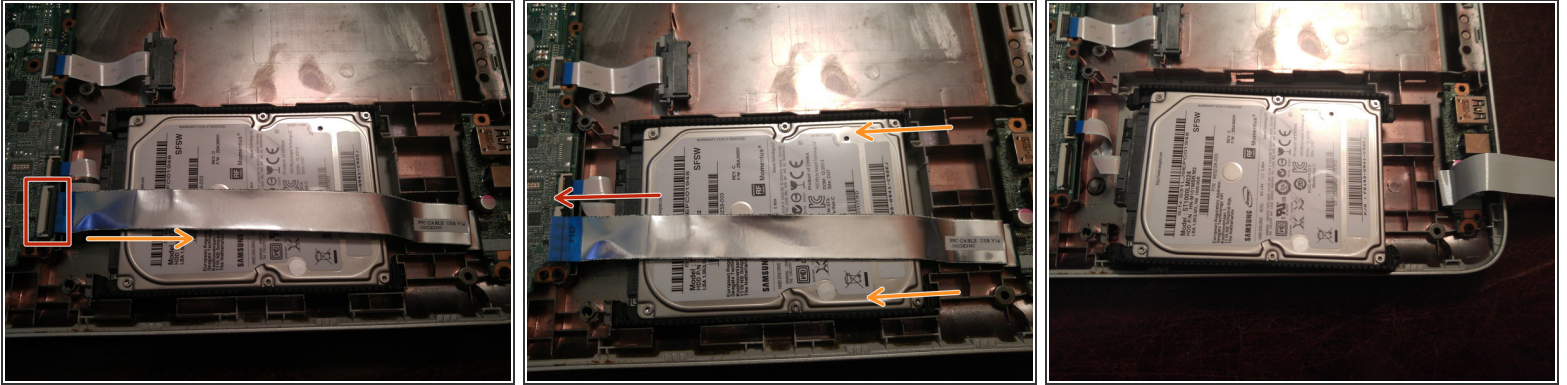
Step 9 — Disconnect the power button



i The final picture shows what you should see after removing the palmrest.

- With the keyboard and trackpad disconnected, lay the palmrest out in a way the flat flex for the power button can be accessed. Disconnect the power button flat flex the same way the keyboard and trackpad were disconnected.
- Once the power button is disconnected, set the palmrest aside.

Step 10 — Disconnect the flat flex



- Disconnect the flat flex cable over the hard drive. To do this, lift the black locking tab up and remove the cable from the ZIF socket. Put it to the side for later.
 - To remove the drive from the chassis, lift the drive out from the side with the SATA interface (front). To remove the drive from the chassis, lift the remaining parts of the drive out the front of the drive. The drive should be removed from the system, as shown in the third picture.
 - Disconnect the drive cable. To do this, wiggle the cable back and fourth until it comes off. **Do not force the cable off of the old drive. It can be difficult to remove if the hard drive has never been replaced before.**
- i** Optional: If you find the flat flex cable on the I/O daughterboard is too intrusive, the whole board can be removed to clear the cable for hard drive replacement.

Step 11 — Remove the drive bumpers



- ❗ If your drive has a plastic sticker over the PCB, remove it from the old drive and transfer it to the replacement drive. Do this **BEFORE** installation.
- Remove the drive bumpers from the old drive. Transfer these to the new hard drive.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order. You will need to reinstall the operating system at this point as well.

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